

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response. Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter contained in claims 4, 6-8, and 13.

DRAWINGS

Applicants acknowledge and thank the Examiner for the indication of acceptance of the drawings filed on June 21, 2001, as shown on the Office Action Summary dated September 7, 2004.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants acknowledge and thank the Examiner for the consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed April 19, 2001, as indicated by the Examiner's initials and signature on the form PTO-1449.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-3, 5, and 9-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Piirainen (US Patent No. 6,748,031).

Applicants have amended claims 1, 5, and 9 to include subject matter previously presented in dependent claims (e.g., claim 4), which the Examiner has indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Thus, Applicants believe all claims as currently pending are in condition for allowance for at least the following reasons.

Applicants respectfully assert that Piirainen fails to teach or suggest at least generating a channel estimate "over a time window of predetermined width", as currently claimed in claim 1.

In FIG. 2 of Piirainen, a detector 200 generates a probability 210 of an estimated symbol (\tilde{x}) received on the condition that a signal y is received. Multiple probabilities 210 are added together and a mean value 212 (of the probability) is generated in a generating means 202. A delay means 208 delays the received signal y such that the timing of the signal y corresponds with a timing of the estimated signal (\tilde{x}). A second means 204 generates a mean value of the energy 214 of the estimated signal (\tilde{x}). An estimator 206 then generates a channel estimate h using the mean value 212, the delayed signal y, a previous channel estimate 216, and the mean value of the energy 214 of the estimated symbol (\tilde{x}).

However, Piirainen is silent with regard to at least generating a channel estimate "over a time window of predetermined width", as currently recited in independent claim 1. Piirainen does not make any mention or suggestion of any time window, let alone a time window of predetermined width.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that Piirainen fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations as discussed above with respect to independent claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is allowable for at least the reasons as set forth above.

Further, Applicants respectfully assert that independent claims 5 and 9 are also allowable for reasons somewhat similar to those set forth above with respect to independent claim 1.

With regard to dependent claims 2, 3, and 10-12, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 2, 3, and 10-12 are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1 and 9, from which they depend.

As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the outstanding rejection.

CONCLUSION

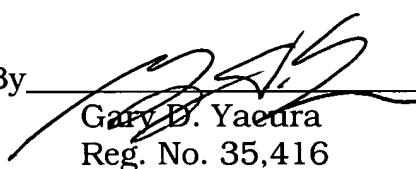
In view of above remarks, reconsideration of the outstanding rejection and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Andrew M. Waxman, Reg. No. 56,007 at the number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, PLC

By 
Gary D. Yaeger
Reg. No. 35,416

GDY/AMW:jcp

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, VA 20195
(703) 668-8000